

**What is claimed is:**

1. A computer-based translation method that translates source information into target information using knowledge that arises from relationships between elements of the source information, comprising a plurality of activities comprising:
  - obtaining information from one or more sources;
  - applying a first plurality of pattern matching rules to the information to obtain a first transformed version of the information, the first plurality of pattern matching rules based on expert knowledge about a first plurality of patterns in the information;
  - transforming the information using user input to obtain a second transformed version of the information, the user input obtained via a graphical user interface generated based on a second plurality of pattern matching rules, the second plurality of pattern matching rules based on expert knowledge about a second plurality of patterns in the information; and
  - expressing the first transformed version and the second transformed version in a destination system.
2. The computer-based translation method of claim 1, further comprising converting the information into a common format.
3. The computer-based translation method of claim 1, further comprising converting the information into a user-definable syntax.
4. The computer-based translation method of claim 1, further comprising converting the information into XML.
5. The computer-based translation method of claim 1, further comprising importing the first transformed version into the destination system.

6. The computer-based translation method of claim 1, further comprising importing the second transformed version into the destination system.
7. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising parsing the information.
8. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising expressing the information in an XML syntax.
9. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising applying XSLT transforms to the information.
10. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising applying XSLT transforms to the information and generating DHTML.
11. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising generating DHTML encoding a plurality of options for translating an element of the information.
12. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising generating a plurality of options for translating an element of the information.
13. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising interpreting a plurality of options for translating an element of the information using DHTML logic.
14. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising creating graphical user interface elements for presenting a plurality of options for translating an element of the information.
15. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising presenting a plurality of options for translating an element of the information.

16. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising presenting to each of a plurality of users, a plurality of options for translating an element of the information.
17. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising presenting to each of a plurality of users, a plurality of options for translating an element of the information, the plurality of options and the information element differing for each of the plurality of users.
18. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising presenting in the graphical user interface a plurality of options for translating an element of the information.
19. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a user-selected option from a plurality of options for translating an element of the information.
20. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising receiving input relating to an element of the information from a user.
21. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising receiving input from each of a plurality of users regarding each user's preference for translating an element of the information.
22. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising receiving input from each of a plurality of users regarding each user's preference for translating an element of the information, a first user's preference overriding a second user's preference.
23. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising tracking received user input for translating an element of the information.

24. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising providing an audit trail of user input relating to a translation of an element of the information.
25. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising providing an audit trail of the user input.
26. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising repeating said applying activity.
27. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising repeating said transforming activity.
28. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising providing a view of the destination system.
29. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising providing a plurality of differing views of the destination system, each of the plurality of differing views corresponding to a different use for the destination system.
30. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising presenting in the graphical user interface the information and the second transformed version.
31. The translation method of claim 1, further comprising presenting in the graphical user interface the information and the second transformed version, a change in the user input reflected in the second transformed version.
32. The computer-based translation method of claim 1, wherein the second transformed version is based on the first transformed version.

33. The computer-based translation method of claim 1, wherein the second transformed version is not based on the first transformed version.
34. The computer-based translation method of claim 1, wherein a pattern matching rule from the first plurality of pattern matching rules is based on a plurality of knowledge elements and at least one known relationship between the plurality of knowledge elements, each of the plurality of knowledge elements identifiable as an entity in the information.
35. The translation method of claim 1, wherein XSLT is employed to translate the information.
36. The translation method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first plurality of patterns is a set.
37. The translation method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first plurality of patterns is a hierarchy.
38. The translation method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first plurality of patterns is a naming convention.
39. The translation method of claim 1, wherein the user input is derived from input from a first user and input from a second user.
40. The translation method of claim 1, wherein the user input is derived from input from a first user and input from a second user, the first user occupying a different position in a value chain than the second user.

41. The translation method of claim 1, wherein the user input is derived from input from a first user and input from a second user, the first user occupying a different position in a business process than the second user.
42. The translation method of claim 1, wherein the user input is derived from input from a first user and input from a second user, at least a portion of the input from the second user altering at least a portion of the input from the first user.
43. A machine-readable medium comprising instructions for a computer-based translation method that translates source information into target information using knowledge that arises from relationships between elements of the source information, the method comprising a plurality of activities comprising:
  - obtaining information from one or more sources;
  - applying a first plurality of pattern matching rules to the information to obtain a first transformed version of the information, the first plurality of pattern matching rules based on expert knowledge about a first plurality of patterns in the information;
  - transforming the information using user input to obtain a second transformed version of the information, the user input obtained via a graphical user interface generated based on a second plurality of pattern matching rules, the second plurality of pattern matching rules based on expert knowledge about a second plurality of patterns in the information; and
  - expressing the first transformed version and the second transformed version in a destination system.
44. A computer-based system for translating source information into target information using knowledge that arises from relationships between elements of the source information, the system comprising:
  - means for obtaining information from one or more sources;

means for applying a first plurality of pattern matching rules to the information to obtain a first transformed version of the information, the first plurality of pattern matching rules based on expert knowledge about a first plurality of patterns in the information;

means for transforming the information using user input to obtain a second transformed version of the information, the user input obtained via a graphical user interface generated based on a second plurality of pattern matching rules, the second plurality of pattern matching rules based on expert knowledge about a second plurality of patterns in the information; and

means for expressing the first transformed version and the second transformed version in a destination system.

45. A computer-based translation method comprising a plurality of activities comprising:

obtaining information from one or more sources;

applying a first plurality of pattern matching rules to at least a first portion of the information to obtain a first transformed version of the information, the first plurality of pattern matching rules based on expert knowledge about a first plurality of patterns in the information;

transforming at least a second portion of the information using user input to obtain a second transformed version of the information, the user input obtained via a graphical user interface generated based on a second plurality of pattern matching rules, the second plurality of pattern matching rules based on expert knowledge about a second plurality of patterns in the information; and

expressing the first transformed version and the second transformed version in a destination system.